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The international conference “Khojaly Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity and Terrorism” kicked off in the Turkish capital of Ankara on February 22.

The conference is co-organized by the Turkic Council and Hoca Ahmet Yesevi International Turkish-Kazakh University.

Speakers at the opening ceremony included deputy chairman of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Ahmet Aydın, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Azerbaijan Elmar Mammadyarov, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Turkey Mevlut Cavusoglu, Minister of Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan Mikayil Jabbarov, Secretary General of the Turkic Council Ramil Hasanov, and chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hoca Ahmet Yesevi International Turkish-Kazakh University Musa Yildiz.

In his address, Minister Mikayil Jabbarov drew the audience’s attention to the massacre committed by Armenians in Khojaly, and consequences of the crimes and aggression against Azerbaijan. He said Khojaly genocide was a clear evidence of the policy of intervention, occupation and ethnic cleansing against the people of Azerbaijan. Minister Mikayil Jabbarov underlined the role of education in promoting the international community’s awareness of the truth about Khojaly genocide, restoring the historical justice and exposing the criminals. The minister also paid tribute to those who were martyred in Khojaly and gave their lives for Azerbaijan’s independence.